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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/037,839      | 01/03/2002  | Hiromi Enomoto       | 1117.66092          | 7225             |

7590 04/08/2004

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EXAMINER

ALPHONSE, FRITZ

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
|----------|--------------|

2675

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DATE MAILED: 04/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/037,839

Applicant(s)

ENOMOTO ET AL.

Examiner

Fritz Alphonse

Art Unit

2675

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1 and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 2-10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant Admitted prior Art, hereinafter refers to APA in view of Sekine (U.S. Pat. No. 6,661,401).

As to claim 1, APA (fig. 2) shows a driving circuit for a liquid crystal display device (150), comprising: driver output lines (see figure 2; OUT1 to OUTn) connected to an output of a data line driver (200); data lines for supplying data to a display area (APA fig. 2 shows data lines D1 to D2n for supplying data to the display). APA teaches about switches (S1 to S2n) connecting an  $i$ th of the driver output lines to  $i$ th,  $i+2j$ th, and  $i+2j \cdot \text{times} \cdot (m-1)$ th of said data lines in response to signals on said  $m$  pieces of block selection signal lines when  $j$  is a positive integer smaller than  $m$ .

APA does not teach that  $m$  pieces of block selection signal lines sequentially selecting  $m$  pieces of blocks.

However, in the same field of endeavor, Sekine (fig. 6) shows an active matrix display device wherein  $m$  pieces of block selection signal lines (SIG1-SIG4) sequentially selecting  $m$  pieces of blocks.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention, to combine the device as disclosed by APA with Sekine's driving circuit. Doing so

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would provide a driving method capable of improving the yield of production by eliminating the precharge circuit from the liquid crystal display panel.

As to claim 11, the claim differs from claim 1 by the additional limitation "a display part". However, this limitation is clearly disclosed by APA (see page 4, lines 17-21).

*Allowable Subject Matter*

3. Claims 2-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

*Conclusion*

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kusada (U.S. Pat. No. 5,192,945) discloses a device and method for driving a liquid crystal panel.

Misawa et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,250,931) disclose an active matrix panel having display and driver TFTs on the same substrate.

Enami et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,892,493) disclose a data line precharging apparatus and method for a liquid crystal display.

Higashi (U.S. Pat. No. 6,023,260) discloses a driving method of an LCD device.

Nakano et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,529,181) disclose a liquid crystal display apparatus having display control unit for lowering clock frequency at which pixels drivers are driven.

Koyama et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,144,354) disclose an image display apparatus.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fritz Alphonse whose telephone number is (703)-308-8534. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:30-6:00, Alt. Mondays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven J Saras can be reached on (703)-305-3900.

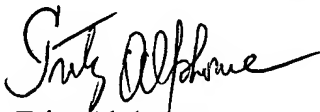
**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

**Or faxed to: (703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)**

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-306-0377.



Fritz Alphonse

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April 2, 2003



STEVEN SARAS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600